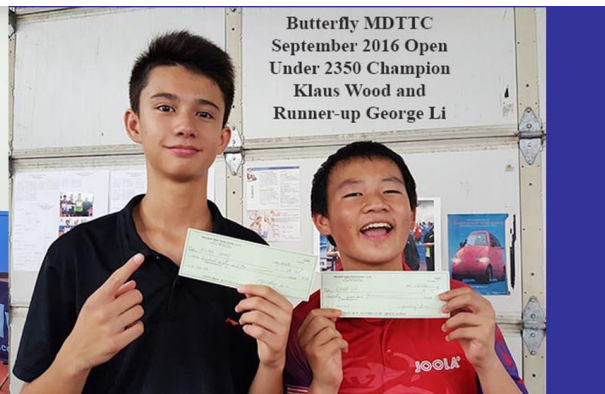




Butterfly MDTTC September 2016 Open
Open Singles: Semifinalist Nathan Hsu, Runner-up Chen Bo Wen,
Champion Zhang Yan, Semifinalist Roy Ke



Butterfly MDTTC
September 2016 Open
Under 2350 Champion
Klaus Wood and
Runner-up George Li



Butterfly MDTTC September 2016 Open
Over 50 Runner-up Thomas Sampson
and Champion Lixin Lang



Butterfly MDTTC September 2016 Open
Under 1350 Runner-up John Miller
and Champion Stanley Hsu



Butterfly MDTTC September 2016 Open
Under 2000 Champion George Nie
and Runner-up Darwin Ma



Butterfly MDTTC September 2016 Open
Under 15 Runner-up Stanley Hsu
and Champion Walid Alkadi



Butterfly MDTTC September 2016 Open
Under 1700 Runner-up Hossam Alkadi
and Champion Ali Paryavi

Butterfly MDTTC September Open Finalists!

Archive of Past MDTTC Newsletters

Welcome to the 53rd issue of the MDTTC News! As usual, there's lots of news to report and new and ongoing programs, and we hope to see you at some of them. As usual a special thanks to MDTTC sponsors [Butterfly](#) and [HW Global Foundation](#). Make sure to read my [daily table tennis blog](#) - I often write about MDTTC happenings there. And if you have a nice picture taken at MDTTC, email it to me and it might make the newsletter!

-Editor and Coach [Larry Hodges](#); Publisher Wen Hsu.

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ITTF Women's World Cup - Interested in attending this international event, which takes place in Philadelphia, Oct. 7-9? MDTTC has a special group rate discount. [Here's info!](#) The best women in the world will be there, including the top two women in the world, Liu Shiwen and Ding Ning of China, and USA's own Lily Zhang. A number of MDTTC players are going, so come join us!

Fall Coconut Cup Open

The annual team tournament takes place on October 1 (Division B, rating between 1501 and 2000) and October 8 (Division A:Over 2001 & :Under 1500) at MDTTC. All teams will be divided into these divisions according to the average rating of the best three players on the team. Please contact Wencai Zheng [443-690-9752](#) or Longlai Wang [301-767-6311](#) or Tingmei Zhou [646-275-0565](#) if you have any questions, or see entry forms at MDTTC.

Butterfly MDTTC October Open : Saturday, October 22 Over \$1800 in cash & prizes will be awarded at this 2-star USATT sanctioned tournament – so sign up now! Here's the [MDTTC Tournament Page](#), and here's the [entry form](#) for this year's tournaments. Events include Open, U2350, U2000, U1700, U1350, Under 14, and Over 50 (all RR). Online registration available at [Omnipong.com](#). (See link on tournament page.) If you have questions, please email [Coach Larry](#).

Butterfly MDTTC September Open (See pictures at top.)

By Larry Hodges, tournament director
September 10, 2016

Another Saturday, another tournament – isn't that the way it's supposed to be? The Butterfly MDTTC September Open had 55 players in seven events. New MDTTC coach Zhang Yan, unrated but seeded at what turned out to be an under-rated 2550, took top honors, defeating fellow MDTTC coach Chen Bo Wen ("Bowen," 2563) in the final, 11,3,-10,6,11. Zhang was up 10-8 in that third game; at 10-9 they had a monster counter-looping rally that just would not end, with both players ranging farther and farther to their right (both are righties) as they hook-looped

back and forth with as much sidespin as topspin. Bowen won the point as Zhang stood, hands on hips and looking disgusted after the point, but it was only a momentary setback.

Klaus Wood showed that he's ready to make the jump from 2350 to 2450. He won Under 2350 event without losing a game (over George Li in the final), and in the quarterfinals of the Open came back from down 0-2 in games and 8-10 match point in the fifth to have his own 11-10 match point before losing to Roy Ke (2441).

George Nie once again won Under 2000, this time in a squeaker over Darwin Ma, 9,9,-3,-4,9. Ali Paryavi, who took part the week before in the four-day ITTF Cadet Camp at MDTTC, won Under 1700 over Hossam Alkadi in a huge comeback from down 0-2 in games and who knows how many match points in game three, -11,-9,14,9,6.

Stanley Hsu nipped chopper/looper John Miller in the final of Under 1350 (-9,10,9,11), with a deuce-in-the-fifth squeaker in the semifinals over Thierry Viboux, 9,-5,-3,12,10. Stanley also made it to the final of Under 15, losing to Walid Alkadi in the final, 5,8,8.

Lixin Lang, who assisted in running the tournament, in his free time once again won Over 50 over Thomas Sampson, 7,8,-5,2.

A great thanks goes to sponsor Butterfly, to MDTTC, to referee Paul Kovac, and to Lixin Lang and Wen Hsu for helping run the tournament. Here are [complete results](#), with a summary below. Breaking News (added later) - the ratings for the tournament were processed on Tuesday morning - [here they are!](#)

Open Singles – Final: [Zhang Yan d. Chen Bo Wen](#), 11,3,-10,6,11; **SF:** Zhang d. Nathan Hsu, 8,6,10,-10,9; Chen Bo Wen d. Roy Ke, 8,9,-7,9,9; **QF:** Zhang d. George Li, 8,8,4; Chen Bo Wen d. Spencer Chen, 5,8,7; Ke d. Klaus Wood, 7,5,-9,-6,11; Hsu d. Eric Li, 11,-11,9,-10,6.

Under 2350 – Final: [Klaus Wood d. George Li](#), 6,6,7; **SF:** Wood d. George Nie, 3,-5,7,4; Li d. Tiffany Ke, 8,12,6.

Under 2000 – Final: [George Nie. D. Darwin Ma](#), 9,9,-3,-4,9; **SF:** Nie d. Xinsheng Michael Huang, 8,6,6; Ma d. Joshua Gong, -8,5,10,11.

Under 1700 – Final: [Ali Paryavi d. Hossam Alkadi](#), -11,-9,14,9,6; **SF:** Paryavi d. Ara Sahakian, 10,7,6; Alkadi d. Adrian Yang, 4,5,7.

Under 1350 – Final: [Stanley Hsu d. John Miller](#), -9,10,9,11; **SF:** Hsu d. Thierry Viboux, 9,-5,-3,12,10; Millder d. Jeff Howes, 9,2,-2,8.

Under 15 – Final: [Walid Alkadi d. Stanley Hsu](#), 5,8,8; **SF:** W.Alkadi d. Hossam Alkadi, 7,2,5; Hsu d. Ryan Lee, -6,7,10,9.

Over 50 – Final RR: [1st Lixin Lang, 3-0; 2nd Thomas Sampson, 2-1](#); 3rd Yunhua Gong, 1-2; 4th James Wilson, 0-3.

ITTF CADET CAMP AT MDTTC



ITTF Cadet Training Camp, L-R: Canadian Cadet Coach Liu Yongjiang; USATT High Performance Director Cory Eider; Coach Larry Hodges (back); Faith Hu (front); Isabelle Xiong; U.S. National Coach Wang Qingliang; Ivy Liao; Practice Partner Zhang Yan; Jessica Lin; Crystal Wang; Coach Jeffrey Zeng, Lisa Lin; Daniel Sofer (front); Klaus Wood (back); George Li; Ronald Chen; Spencer Chen; Ali Paryavi; Eric Li; Practice Partner Nathan Hsu; Abbas Paryavi; and Coach Jack Huang. (Missing: player Derek Nie, and practice partners John Hsu, Heather Wang, and You Lyu.)

U.S. National /MDTTC Coach Qingliang Wang, assisted by other coaches and practice partners, organized and ran a four-day ITTF Cadet Training Camp at the Maryland Table Tennis Center over Labor Day Weekend, Fri-Mon. Fifteen players took part in the camp, including five USA national team members: Crystal Wang (Junior and Cadet Girls); Derek Nie and Klaus Wood (Cadet Boys); and Lisa Lin and Faith Hu (Mini-Cadet Girls). [Here is the complete write-up](#) by Larry Hodges on the USATT news page.

MDTTC Adult Programs

- **[Tuesday and/or Friday Lunch Group Training \(1:00-2:00 pm\)](#)** for all levels. Improve your table tennis skills while getting great physical and mental exercises. Every player will get one-on-one playing time with Coach Jeffrey Zeng (2550+ rating).
- **[Sunday Adult Training](#)** from 6:30-8:00PM. No pre-registration is required, but if you have any questions, [email](#) Coach Larry. *Be prepared to improve!!!*

MDTTC Junior Programs

- **[Beginning/Intermediate Junior Classes](#)**. (Sundays 4:00-5:30, ten weeks). This is for beginners to advanced beginners, ages 6-14, with Coach Larry (with John Hsu and others assisting). For more info, see the [Junior Group Training Page](#).
- **[Junior Boys Training](#)**. Junior Training with Coach Cheng, for junior boys rated roughly 1500-2100. The training is on Saturdays from 4:30-6:30. Cost is \$20/session. For more info, contact Cheng directly at MDTTC, 301-519-8580.
- **[Junior Girls Training](#)**. Junior training with Coach Jack Huang, for junior girls rated over 1750, with coaches' recommendation. Fridays 5-7PM. Contact Coach Jack directly at MDTTC, 301-519-8580.

- [Tuesday Beginning Level 2 Class for Juniors](#). This is for players with USATT level from 500-800, and is limited to five players per session. Sessions are Tuesdays from 6-7PM with Coach John Hsu, an ITTF & USATT certified coach.

MDTTC Private Coaching Take private lesson with experienced professional MDTTC coaches. USATT & ITTF certified coaches are available. See [Private Coaching page](#).

MDTTC Leagues

- [Tuesday and Friday Night Leagues](#). All ages and levels. Please arrive prior to 7:25 pm to sign up. If you know you'll be a few minutes late, please call the club at 301-519-8580 BEFORE 7:20 pm, otherwise YOU WILL BE TURNED AWAY
- [Wednesday Night Recreational League](#). Play is from 7:30-9:00PM. See info page for more info.
- [Sunday Elite League](#). This is primarily for players over 1900, and is on Sundays at 12:30PM.

Capital Area League - The Fall [Capital Area Team League](#) had its first meeting on Sept. 17. The next meeting is Oct. 15. You can see the results by Division on the home page. This season there are 110 players on 23 teams.

Birthday Parties & Rental Space for Corporate and Private Events

MDTTC offers birthday parties ran by our popular Coach Larry. We also regularly host community events and team-building activities for local businesses. Space rental for special corporate and private events are available. Here is [Facility Rental Information](#), and here is info on [Birthday Party Packages](#).

MDTTC Web and Facebook Pages

Don't forget to see the regularly updated [MDTTC Facebook page](#), and make sure to "like" it! Stop by and see all the photos, read the latest news, or post your own comments. Also see the [MDTTC web page](#) for regularly updated info.

Tip of the Month: Looping Slightly-Long Balls

By Larry Hodges

Many players have great difficulty looping slightly-long balls, especially with the forehand. These are usually serves or pushes that go only a little bit off the table. Most players push them back – and since the ball is relatively deep, they can't get a good angle nor can they rush the opponent with a quick push, and so their return is ineffective. The solution, of course, is to loop these balls. (And the nice thing here is that when you read these balls right, they are easy to loop very aggressively.) How do you learn to do that?

Here are three tips for learning to forehand loop against slightly-long balls. (Tips 2 and 3 apply to the backhand loop as well.)

1. You need to be very close to the table, with your head directly over the end-line. This allows you to look down on the ball, making it much easier to see if the ball is long, as well as easier to time it.
2. Realize that you can loop a ball even if it is actually slightly short, i.e. the second bounce would be on the end-line or even an inch or so inside. You simply stroke aggressively over the

table with a slightly upward stroke. Once you realize this, you'll see that balls that seemed unloopable are actually very loopable. (You can go over the table even more with the backhand loop, by using more wrist. In fact, a backhand banana flip is essentially a loop done over the table.) Some worry that they'll hit their hand on the table, but if you are aware of where the table is, you just stroke slightly behind or above it. If you can contact a small, moving ball, how hard is it to avoid hitting a large stationary object? (In 40 years of play, I don't recall ever hitting my hand on the table while looping.)

3. *Practice!* How do you do this? Have someone feed you multiball backspin where the ball is only slightly long, or do it live where you serve and your partner pushes the ball back slightly long. You'll have to adjust to each shot as some will be longer, some shorter, including some too short to forehand loop. Get your head over the ball (see #1 above), recognize that you can loop balls that you didn't think you could before (#2 above), and loop those that are loopable. At first, if you think the ball is unloopable, *let it go*. You'll be tempted to adjust and either push or flip, but letting it go is the only way to get true feedback. Watch it and ask yourself, "Could I have looped that ball?" Often the answer will be yes. Eventually, with practice, you'll be able to judge this, and then you can stop letting the ball go, and practice either looping the loopable ones, and pushing or flipping the shorter ones.